Ministry of Justice – Regulatory Update

The first review of the Bailiff Reforms (the implementation of the Taking Control of Goods Regulations) was published on 2 April 2018.

The review noted a number of positives:

* greater transparency over debtor rights;
* how to complain;
* clarity for debtors about fees that can be charged;
* the processes that should be followed;
* and where to go for advice.

It also found the overall effectiveness of enforcement has improved, with a greater proportion of debts now being successfully enforced.

However, it also reveals lingering concerns over aggressive behaviour by some bailiffs.

Following those concerns the MoJ intends to launch a Call for Evidence. We will seek views from all interested parties about how the reforms are working in practise.

We are currently looking at the scope of the Call for Evidence. We anticipate that it will examine the fee structure and assess whether it is having an impact on the behaviour of enforcement agents or debtors.

We will of course be speaking to those of you who contributed to the one year review, and anyone who would like to come along to one of our stakeholder events that we will hold in the summer. Please contact me at samantha.toyn@justice.gov.uk.